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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(not for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	7156-139
First Inventor	Mark Bland, et al.
Title	HINGE SYSTEM FOR ARTICULATING MOWER DECKS
Express Mail Label No.	EL983135294US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents

1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)	7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.	8. <input type="checkbox"/> Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Specification Sequence Listing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> paper c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification (preferred arrangement set forth below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Descriptive title of the Invention - Cross References to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix or computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure 	9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) <input type="checkbox"/> Informal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal	10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney
5. Oath or Declaration a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)	11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)
i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).	12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations
6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76	13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment
18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:	14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-part (CIP)	15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (If foreign priority is claimed)
Prior application information: Examiner: Robert Eric Pezzuto Group / Art Unit: 4171	16. <input type="checkbox"/> Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
	17. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number:		OR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below
Name	Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty, McNett & Henry LLP		
Address	Bank One Center/Tower 111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700		
City	Indianapolis	State	IN
Country	USA	Telephone	(317) 634-3456
Name (Print/Type)	R. Randall Frisk	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,221
Signature	<u>R. Randall Frisk</u>		Date

Express Mail Label Number EL98313529US**Date of Deposit January 23, 2004**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR Section 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

R. Randall Frisk
Signature of person mailing paper or fee

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

17364 U.S.

FEE TRANSMITTAL

FOR FY 2004

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

Total Amount of Payment (\$ 385.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Group Art Unit

Mark Bland

4171

Examiner Name

Robert Eric Pezzuto

Attorney Docket Number

7156-139

METHOD OF PAYMENT

 Check Credit card Money Other None Order
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number

23-3030

Deposit Account Name

Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,
McNett & Henry LLP

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application, excluding the payment of issue fees
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Description

Fee Paid

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge – late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner's Action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner's Action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to Institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive – unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other Fee (specify)					

* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)

*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)

R. Randall Frisk

Complete (if applicable)

Signature

R. Randall Frisk

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.